

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release



Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701 (800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov

Released: December 15, 2010 Media Contact: Vince Matthews

Idaho Potato Stocks Down 16 percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on December 1 totaled 82.5 million cwt, 15.5 million cwt less than on hand December 1, 2009. This is the lowest December 1 stocks level since 1989. Disappearance, at 31.9 million cwt is down from last year's 34.5 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 4.60 million cwt, down from last year's 5.60 million cwt. The Other counties' stocks, at 77.9 million cwt, were down from the 92.4 million cwt stored on December 1, 2009. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 6.42 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes during November, up 4.2 percent from November 2009. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 21.0 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes to December 1, down 9.0 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 16.5 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 4.53 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 232 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2010, down 13 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, three percentage points below December 1, 2009. Potato disappearance, at 119 million cwt, was 1 percent above December 1, 2009. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 12.5 million cwt, was down 13 percent from the same date in 2009. Processors in the 9 major States have used 63.5 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 4 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 7.86 million cwt of the total processing, down 28 percent from last year.